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1. On October 24 Amb Ortona informed Assistant Secretary Solomon that GOI was prepared enter into formal negotiations with USG beginning November 11, on three assumptions:

(a) That negotiations would not take up question of beyond rights.

(b) That Italy would want route to Chicago extended to Los Angeles and new route Italy/Paris/Atlanta/Dallas (plus present route to Boston/New York but giving up request for Paris on route to New York).

(c) That separate document would be prepared regarding subsequent negotiations to be held not later than 1971 to consider for Italy routes beyond US to Japan, Australia and Central America and routes for US beyond Italy to Africa and Australia.

In discussion Ortona explained that Italy considered these assumptions as acceptable "framework within which negotiations could develop" and clarified that point (a) above meant status quo for US on routes beyond Italy (i.e., no traffic rights beyond Italy to Bangkok, Hong Kong and Tokyo). Ortona also stated that package proposed by Italy for November negotiations would, on basis US route estimates, involve

Drafted by:	Tel. Ext.	Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:
E/OA/AN:ECRodriguez:deb 10/25/68	5586	E - Mr. Solomon

Clearances:

E/TT - Mr. Loy
E/OA - Mr. Meadows
E/OA/AN - Mr. Ferretti
AIS - Mr. Blake
CAB - Mr. Scibilia

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imbalance in favor of Italy of only $139,000. (Note: US calculation of value Italian route suggestions shows imbalance of over $2 million in favor of Italy -- not $139,000 -- not including all-cargo services which represent another $2 million imbalance in favor of Italy.)

2. Ortona also asked Solomon whether fact present USG administration finishing its term likely to affect negotiations negatively.

3. Solomon said would try give some response to Italian proposals and Ortona question on October 28 but indicated great difficulties posed by Italian route suggestions. Memcon on October 24 meeting will be pouched to Embassy.

END

RUSK

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